12/14/69

Dear Hal,

Time was when I could say my driving time was my thinking time. Now I drive little, stay pretty occupied with things that require putting my mind to them, so my thunking time is my outside-working time, and since thanksgiving there has been little of that, for most of the time we've both been under the weather. I didn't go to the doctor, seem to have thrown whatever I had pretty well, save for lingering weariness greater than usual. Lil, without doubt, has or probably has had a strep throat. So until I got to doing the mechanical thing of posting your corrections on the master and waiting this a.m. for someone who did not come but whose coming prompted me not to get into the writing I'd planned, I had little time to think something through. It is about this I write you.

You had said you would have told me the blacks would have no interest in COUP, both parts. You know them, I am sure, as I do not. But whatxyou did not say is that, from your reading of both parts, you see nothing in them for blacks. I think it has something for everybody, as it turns out: something for them and because of it, something for us.

First of all, there is the entire question of the DJ and the FBI and facing and answering them, in court and to potential allies (or do they prefer none?). Then there is the question of persecution, or as a lawyer might prefer in court, the inscription over the Supreme Court entrance, "Equal Justice Under Law". Here, in many areas, I have what they right now need very much, among their own people and among the whites they might want to understand better. You name it in what is involved in the recent shootups and raids: machine guns in the hands of the right and official silence; guerrilla training of whites/rightist and official silence; FBI failure to do anything when they had evidence on violance against blacks and serious law-violations by rightist whites; even in the current Hilliard prosecution, compare that with the four separate NSRP threats against Kennedy, about which they did nothing, even though they had proof one man claimed credit for the murder after predicting that. I think, properly used by Gerry, this could be very helpful, to his client and to us. And I would think they would want this book out, where it can be read, where the documentation can be held in the hand and seen, where it can be on TV, and where its doctrine, that there has been a coup d'etat and whatever murders of leaders is required for the success of the coup d'etat will be committed, can be evaluated if not understood.

So, if you possibly van, see if there is some way you can reach Gerry, Hilliard's S.F. lawyer. If he wants copies of the book, but not now for any public use, Paul can supply them. I'll be doing a bit more writing, another finale ultimo of two parts: one on the suit I'll soon be filing on the King/Ray suppression and one resumming the book in terms of the current heat that I think is clearly if elliptically forecast as of a year and a half ago. I think both parts are now important and the one on the suit, in the present black context, is dynamite, as the suit will be. Right now, by the way, I am in not unfriendly contact with a net on this, believe it or not. The producer may be turned off, but he is interested personally. He knows me and my work, remembering me after a single meeting almost <u>five</u> years ago! Chances are against it, but I'm making the effort...Meanwhile, you have a good pr sense I ask you to stop and use. Do you see the potential for us in some of this used in a court proceeding that is bound to be well covered? But, no one-shot publicity. It requires a proper context and it must be accompanied by the availability of the entire contents, including that nobody takes time to find and understand. Maybe, also, you might speak to Bob and Jessica Truehaft. Tell them both for me that if they ever get east they must see what I now have. Not just this....Among the awaiting mechanical chores is correction to Part I...Time, time, I've so much to do, and it is so oppressive when there seems to be naught but futility. Best regards, H